

MITT ROMNEY GOVERNOR

KERRY HEALEY
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

THOMAS H. TRIMARCO SECRETARY

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

STATE HOUSE . ROOM 373

BOSTON, MA 02133

TEL: (617) 727-2040 FAX: (617) 727-2779 www.mass.gov/eoaf

November 9, 2006

The Honorable Mitt Romney Executive Office State House, Room 360 Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Governor Romney:

Pursuant to the provisions of section 9C of Chapter 29 of the Massachusetts General Laws, I hereby notify you that available revenues for Fiscal Year 2007 are projected to be insufficient to meet authorized expenditures. The amount of this probable deficiency is estimated at approximately \$425 million. Although my office has recently revised the Fiscal Year 2007 tax estimate upward by \$202 million to \$19.132 billion, this amount is insufficient to support the unsustainable spending growth appropriated by the Legislature.

As you know, the Legislature recently proposed transferring \$450 million in Stabilization reserves to bridge the gap between available revenues and appropriated spending. You vetoed that measure as being an inappropriate use of "rainy day" funds during a time of economic expansion. Further, use of reserves to support unsustainable spending levels creates a structural deficit that will continue into Fiscal Year 2008. While we continue to project economic growth for the remainder of the year and next year, signs point to slightly lower growth rates than we have recently experienced. These forecasts warrant a cautious approach, and I therefore recommend a reduction in spending to preserve our rainy day funds for any eventual downturn in the economy. These reductions will also relieve spending pressure on the Fiscal Year 2008 budget, which is likely to see significant growth in non-discretionary spending.

Upon your direction, I will make reductions under section 9B of Chapter 29 to eliminate the entire \$425 million shortfall. This reduction amounts to approximately 1.7% of total budgeted spending. I've attached a list of recommended reductions.

Sincerely.

Thomas H. Trimarco

Secretary

cc:

Robert E. Travaglini, President of the Senate

Salvatore F. DiMasi, Speaker of the House Brian P. Lees, Senate Minority Leader

Bradley H. Jones, Jr., House Minority Leader

William F. Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth

Robert A. DeLeo, House Committee on Ways and Means, Chair Therese Murray, Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Chair

Martin J. Benison, Comptroller Deval Patrick, Governor-elect



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE HOUSE • BOSTON 02133 (617) 725-4000

November 10, 2006

Thomas H. Trimarco Secretary of Administration and Finance State House, Room 373 Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Secretary Trimarco:

In response to your letter in which you project a remaining gap between anticipated revenues and authorized expenditures for Fiscal Year 2007, I hereby direct you, pursuant to Section 9C of Chapter 29 of the General Laws, to make reductions as necessary.

Sincerely.

Mitt Romney Governor

cc:

Robert E. Travaglini, President of the Senate Salvatore F. DiMasi, Speaker of the House Brian P. Lees, Senate Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr., House Minority Leader William F. Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth Robert A. DeLeo, House Committee on Ways and Means, Chair Therese Murray, Senate Committee on Ways and Means, Chair Martin J. Benison, Comptroller Deval Patrick, Governor-elect